



The Libertarian Party Turns 40  
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# LP News

The Party of Principle™

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The Libertarian Party:  
40 Years of Liberty  
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The 40th Anniversary of  
the Libertarian Party



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## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

# The Power of Leverage

by Mark Hinkle



**D**id you ever stop and think: "why did I join the Libertarian Party?" I joined back in 1974 or '75 (so many years ago I don't quite remember). I was young and idealistic and thought, well why not join the Libertarian Party. I share their views. What else do I need to know?

Well, over the years, I've learned a bit about third parties down through the history of the United States. Aside from the principles and idealism involved in joining a third party, there were and are some sound practical reasons as well.

One of the main reasons to join a third political party is leverage.

In the corporate world, if you wanted to change the vision, the culture, or the direction of a large organization, you'll spend years working yourself up the corporate ladder, then with a lot of work and some luck, you might find yourself in a position to lead the corporation in a new direction, or create a different corporate culture, etc.

Or, you can use leverage from the outside to do the same thing by creating a competing organization offering a new vision, a new culture, or a new direction. Then competition in the marketplace will make the existing organization change its tune or it will lose market share and perhaps go out of business (unless bailed out by Congress or the President).

The same is true in the political world. Changing the Republican Party or the Democratic Party from within has got to be an overwhelming task. So overwhelming that the only change that has occurred there is to make them less flexible than ever before.

Both the Republicans and Democrats are losing voters

by the hundreds of thousands. Does that give them pause? Do they think they need to change? No, they are too bureaucratic and too entrenched to change from within. BTW, Libertarian Party registrations are growing and we're the only political party that's doing so. Only outside competition, from you guessed it, a third party, will make them change. When they lose an election, then and only then, do they reflect on what went wrong and how they can be successful the next time.

When I address high school senior civics classes, which I've done for more than 20 years, I often asked them if they've heard of the Free Soil Party ([www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Free\\_soil\\_party](http://www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Free_soil_party))? Most have not. Their slogan was "Free Soil, Free Speech, Free Labor, and Free Men."

This third party was a huge influence on two key issues of the day: anti-slavery and homesteading. They only elected a total of 14 members to the U.S. House and two U.S. Senators. Their two key issues were adopted by the newly formed Republican Party in 1854. Everyone knows about the slavery issue, but few know that they were instrumental in the eventual passage of the Homestead Act. So, everyone west of the Mississippi now lives in the United States thanks to a political party most have never even heard of.

That's leverage!

Large organizations, political or not, have no incentive to change unless outside forces come into play. The Libertarian Party is that force. If there is to be "Less Government, More Freedom" it won't come from the R's and D's. If economic prosperity is going to come back, it won't come from the R's and D's. If the United States is going to be a bastion of Peace and Freedom for the world, it won't come from the R's and D's. If our government is going to respect our individual rights to work as we please, eat what we please, and travel where we please, it won't come from the R's and D's.

Only the Libertarian Party can and does provide the leverage to move the R's and D's towards freedom.

As we celebrate our 40th anniversary on December 11, let us remember not only our principles that guide us, but also let us remember that only third parties bring about real change in politics.

*Mark W.A. Hinkle*

## The following individuals became Lifetime Members of the Libertarian Party between June 26, 2011 and November 20, 2011.

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 Aaron DeCarlo (MD)  
 John G. Gomez (TX)  
 Peter C. Hjelmstad (NY)  
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The Libertarian Party grants Lifetime Membership to individuals who contribute at least \$1,000 during any twelve-month period. Call 202-333-0008 to find out how much more you would need to donate to become a Lifetime Member today.

# LPNews

Libertarian Party News  
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### The Purposes of the Libertarian Party:

The Party is organized to implement and give voice to the principles embodied in the Statement of Principles by: functioning as a libertarian political entity separate and distinct from all other political parties or movements; moving public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office; chartering affiliate parties throughout the United States and promoting their growth and activities; nominating candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States, and supporting Party and affiliate party candidates for political office; and, entering into public information activities.

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# Libertarian Party Celebrates 40th Anniversary

by Wes Benedict

**F**ounded on December 11, 1971 as a pro-liberty alternative to the Republicans and Democrats, the Libertarian Party has fought to promote minimum government and maximum freedom. The Libertarian Party supports free markets, civil liberties and peace.

The Libertarian Party is the third largest political party in the United States, has had affiliates in all fifty states, and has run thousands of candidates for offices ranging from U.S. President and U.S. Congress down to local offices like city councils and school boards.

David F. Nolan, viewed by many as the father of the Libertarian Party, helped co-found the party in 1971, and remained active until his death on November 21, 2010.

The Libertarian National Committee will host a 40th Anniversary Party and tribute to Mr. Nolan in Las Vegas on December 10, 2011.

This issue of LP News is dedicated to the tens of thousands of Libertarian Party members, candidates, donors, and volunteers who have given their time, effort and treasure to help make America a freer and better place.

## Where We Are, Where We Are Going

by James W. Lark, III

**O**n Dec. 11, 2011, the Libertarian Party will celebrate the 40th anniversary of its founding. I am honored to have the opportunity to offer some observations and opinions about where we are and where we are going.

In my opinion, the battle for liberty takes place on many different battlefields. For example, the LP usually operates on the political battlefield: we seek elective and ap-

*continued on page 4...*

# 1971-2011: The Libertarian Party's 40th Anniversary

by Arthur DiBianca

*[Note: 1971-2001 entries taken from an article by Bill Winter in the December 2001 issue of LP News.]*

**O**n August 15, 1971, President Richard Nixon gave a televised speech announcing a government-imposed freeze on wages and prices, and an end to the convertibility of dollars to gold.

His announcement shocked many libertarians. David F. Nolan and several like-minded libertarians in Colorado decided it was time for the creation of a new Libertarian Party.

Since then, the Libertarian Party has grown into an organization with 50 state affiliates, a presidential nominee consistently on the ballot in more than 40 states, and hundreds of other candidates for federal and state offices every two years.

Here are some of the highlights of our first 40 years:

1971: The Committee to Organize a Libertarian Party meets on December 11 and votes to form a new political party.

1972: "The Libertarian Party" is chosen as the party's name, narrowly beating out "The New Liberty Party." The "Libersign"—an arrow angling upward through the acronym "TANSTAAFL"—is selected as the party's emblem. A press conference announcing the new party is held on January 31 at the party's headquarters in Westminster, Colorado. The first national convention, attracting 89 delegates from 23 states, is held in June in Denver, Colorado. John Hospers, a philosophy professor at the University of Southern California, is nominated as presidential candidate and Tonie Nathan as VP. The Hospers/Nathan ticket is on the ballot in two states, and wins 3,907 votes. They also win an Electoral College vote when a renegade Nixon voter casts a ballot for them. Nathan becomes the first woman in U.S. history to receive an electoral vote. Twelve other LP candidates are on the ballot in five states.

1973: In off-year elections, Libertarians run for office in Illinois, Colorado, New Jersey, New York, and Oklahoma. After less than 18 months in existence, the May/June issue of *LP News* reports on the first grumbling about a "Libertarian Establish-



The above logo with the letters TANSTAAFL, coming from the phrase, "There ain't no such thing as a free lunch," was called the Libersign, and was one of the Libertarian Party's original logos.

ment" and a plot to "crush dissent" in the libertarian movement.

1974: An estimated 25-50 LP candidates run for office in nine states. Jerry Tuccille wins about 10,200 votes in his race for New York governor. The LP's first Tax Day protests are held around the country. The party's national office moves to San Francisco. The LP hires its first full-time paid employee.

1975: The Libertarian Party joins a lawsuit against the post-Watergate federal election campaign laws. The libertarian movement gets a boost when Robert Nozick's *Anarchy, State and Utopia* wins the prestigious National Book Award. The party's headquarters relocates to Washington, D.C. The party begins to organize on college campuses with the Young Libertarian Alliance. At the national convention in New York City, Roger MacBride (president) and David Bergland (VP) win the party's nomination for next year's election.

1976: The MacBride/Bergland ticket gains ballot status in 32 states, and receives over 183,000 votes—including 5.5% in Alaska. (According to an internal poll, they also win 6% among members of MENSA, the high-IQ organization.) Michigan runs 86 Libertarians for office, the largest-ever slate of state LP candidates. Around the country, about 250 local LP candidates are on the ballot. *Newsweek* magazine notes that Libertarians are gaining "unique appeal on both the left and right."

1977: The national LP launches a lobbying campaign against President Jimmy Carter's proposed energy regulations. Libertarian candidates are on the ballot in seven states, and Libertarians win their first-ever public offices: Elaine Lindsey is elected to the

City Council seat in Circleville, Ohio and Norman Betros, Jr. is elected to the Board of Education in Haldane, New York. Tonie Nathan attends the International Women's Year Conference in Houston, where she criticizes big-government feminists. "Like women nagging their husband for a new dress, they were nagging Congress for a new law or program," she says. The Cato Institute is founded.

1978: About 210 LP candidates run in 34 states. Ed Clark receives 5% of the vote in his race for Governor of California. Dick Randolph of Alaska becomes the first elected Libertarian state legislator, coming in sixth out of 17 contenders for six open seats in Fairbanks.

1979: At a boisterous presidential nominating convention in Los Angeles, Ed Clark and David Koch are named presidential and vice presidential candidates. Permanent ballot status achieved in California as more than 80,000 voters register Libertarian. The party vows to gain ballot status in all 50 states for the 1980 election. *Restoring the American Dream*—a book by Robert Ringer explicitly promoting the LP—is a bestseller.

1980: In March, Murray Feldstein becomes the LP's first election winner of the new decade, winning a spot on the City Council in Flagstaff, Arizona. The stylized Statue of Liberty is adopted as the LP's new symbol. A bill filed by LP state legislator Dick Randolph passes in Alaska, abolishing the state income tax. After a lawsuit, the LP is recognized by the Post Office as a "major" political party entitled to the same mailing privileges as the Republicans and Democrats. Fueled by \$2 million in contributions by his millionaire running mate, Ed Clark appears on the ballot in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, and runs 47 five-minute commercials on primetime national TV. The Clark/Koch ticket wins 921,199 votes. At the same time, Dick Randolph is re-elected to Alaska state legislature along with Ken Fanning. "Suddenly people are talking about the Libertarians. This could be only the tip of a very large political iceberg," reports *New West* magazine.

1981: Murray Rothbard publishes *For A New Liberty: The Libertarian Manifesto*. The national LP headquarters leases a

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# The Libertarian Party's Past, Present and Future

...continued from page 3

pointed offices, promote plebiscites in favor of our policy positions, advocate for our positions in the halls of government, etc. Some libertarian organizations operate primarily on the intellectual battlefield. I believe there is a cultural battlefield as well; some cultural values and institutions appear to be more conducive than others in allowing individual liberty and personal responsibility to flourish.

To borrow an economics term, I consider politics to be a “lagging indicator.” That is, I believe the LP will see victory on the political battlefield after success has been achieved in other places. I don’t claim to know the length of the time lag.

If we consider the intellectual battlefield, the libertarian perspective has made tremendous progress. The extent to which classical liberal/libertarian ideas are considered and embraced has grown spectacularly during the past 60 years. The works of scholars such as Ludwig von Mises, Friedrich von Hayek, Milton Friedman, James Buchanan, Gordon Tullock, Robert Nozick, Ronald Coase, Murray Rothbard, and many others have changed substantially the climate of opinion about economics and politics.

Organizations such as the Foundation for Economic Education, the Institute for Economic Affairs (in England), the Institute for Humane Studies, the Cato Institute, the Reason Foundation, the Heartland Institute, and the Mises Institute have contributed greatly to promoting libertarian ideas and policy proposals. In addition, organizations such as the Advocates for Self-Government and the Atlas Economic Research Foundation have been successful in improving the ability of individuals and groups to promote the ideas of liberty.

On the political battlefield, I believe the LP has done reasonably well, given the many problems we face (some of which are discussed below). Considering the difficulty of breaking into and remaining in the big league of politics (e.g., the New Alliance Party, the

Reform Party), the fact that the LP still exists is an impressive accomplishment.

Indeed, I believe many observers (including many LP members past and present) badly underestimate the LP’s contribution to the liberty movement. For example, although the LP focuses upon politics, the Party has served as an important transmission vector for the ideas of liberty. Many libertarians first encountered the libertarian perspective not from books and articles, but from seeing LP candidates articulate a vision of a free society.

As we assess our prospects for the future, we should understand the many hurdles we face, which include:

- With all due respect to my colleagues, I believe many LP members overestimate the degree to which our fellow citizens are libertarian. There is a “leave me alone” tradition in the U.S. that I suspect has kept us from sliding further toward statism. However, “Leave me alone” means leave *me* alone; it doesn’t mean leave *you* alone. “Cut my taxes” means cut *my* taxes, not Bill Gates’ taxes.

- My observations suggest that our fellow citizens are conservative, in the sense of risk tolerance rather than political ideology. Thus, they tend to be skeptical (rightfully so, in my opinion) about grand philosophical schemes about society. Most people want clear, tangible evidence that moving toward a libertarian society is a move in the right direction.

- The problem of “concentrated benefits and diffused costs” puts liberty advocates at a disadvantage. That is, beneficiaries of specific government programs may be few in number, but they have strong incentives to organize for their benefits. Those paying the freight for such programs may be many in number, but most have very weak incentives to organize against the programs.

Similarly, the benefits of government programs are usually visible while their costs are frequently hidden and/or difficult to cal-

culate. In addition, the ability of many governments to expand their size and scope by issuing large amounts of debt allows voters to obtain benefits now at the expense of future generations.

- The LP has an important “selection bias” problem: people of libertarian disposition usually dislike politics. Such people don’t look to government to solve the problems of the human condition, and they don’t want to become involved in politics. Moreover, political involvement is frequently very costly, especially in terms of time.

- The LP and other “third parties” face substantial institutional barriers. For example, the Democrats and Republicans are able to pass laws that make it difficult for competitors to gain access to the ballot or raise the capital needed to challenge incumbents successfully.

As an aside, let us give thanks for people such as Bill Redpath and Richard Winger, who have contributed tremendously to our ability to place LP candidates on the ballot.

- Many liberty-minded voters apparently feel they may “waste their vote” by voting Libertarian. That is, they worry that if they vote for their most preferred option (the LP candidate), they risk helping to elect their least preferred candidate (fill in the blank).

Despite the difficulties we face, in looking forward I am rather hopeful about the prospects for liberty. In part this is due to my being something of a cockeyed optimist by nature. More importantly, there are good reasons to look toward a bright (or at least, brighter) future, such as:

- To put it bluntly, we are right: the libertarian vision of individual liberty and personal responsibility is morally right and prudentially better. I believe liberty will be the preferential option for most people when it is evaluated in a proper “apples to apples” comparison with other likely institutional arrangements.

- Overly large and intrusive govern-

ment is very expensive; increasingly our fellow citizens are seeing the extent of that expense. I believe this is especially true regarding the “War on Drugs” and the “War on Terrorism.” Also, increasingly our fellow citizens are seeing the extent to which “big government” will trample upon our rights of free speech, association, and assembly, along with our ability to petition peacefully for redress of government wrongs.

- From what I have seen, increasingly the crème de la crème of bright, talented young people are libertarian in orientation. Organizations such as Students For Liberty are doing great work to explain and promote the ideas of liberty among college students.

While I tend to be optimistic about the future, I am well aware of the challenges we face. The forces of reaction are strong; realizing a society of liberty and personal responsibility will require a lot of blood, sweat, and tears. However, I like our chances.

As we celebrate our upcoming anniversary, allow me to offer my thanks to all who have worked to build the Libertarian Party, and to request that we remember and honor the contributions of our many friends and colleagues who are no longer with us. In particular, allow me to thank my friend David Nolan, who left us much too early.

Happy 40th birthday, Libertarian Party! May we have many happy returns!

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*Dr. Lark, a professor in the School of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Virginia, joined the Libertarian Party in 1983. He is serving in his sixth term as a member of the Libertarian National Committee. He was the chairman of the LNC during the 2000-2002 term. He has served in many leadership positions in the Libertarian Party of Virginia and other state and local affiliates, and in several other libertarian organizations.*

*He is the recipient of the 2004 Samuel Adams Award (given by the LP for outstanding activism) and the 2008 Thomas Jefferson Award (the LP’s highest honor, given for lifetime achievement).*

## History of Libertarian Victories Over Democrats and Republicans

by Arthur DiBianca

**L**P Headquarters has compiled a list of nine Libertarian candidates who beat a Republican and/or a Democrat to win a partisan election. Although that may not sound like much in the 40-year history of the

Libertarian Party, it’s a sign of how high the hurdles are that Libertarians must overcome.

The criteria for this list are specific. The list only includes partisan single-member elections where the Libertarian candidate appeared on the ballot as a Libertarian. It does not include “fusion” elections where the Libertarian appeared on the ballot with one or

more additional party labels, and it does not include elections where multiple candidates appeared under the same party label. These nine are the only Libertarians we have found who qualify for this list.

### 1981: Richard Siano

On November 3, 1981, there was a three-way

election for Kingwood Township Committee in New Jersey. The candidates were Richard Siano (Libertarian), Sam Leon (Republican), and Andrew Madaychik (Democrat). Siano and Madaychik tied with 308 votes (36.6%) each, beating Leon with 225 votes (26.8%).

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# Historical Libertarian Party Victories

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A special tie-breaker election was held on December 29, 1981, in which Siano got 383 votes (62.3%), Madaychik got 208 votes (33.8%), and there were 24 write-in votes (3.9%).

(source: LP News and Richard Siano)

## 1984: Andre Marrou

On November 6, 1984, Andre Marrou was elected as State Representative for District 5B in Alaska. The candidates were Andre Marrou (Libertarian), Chris Martin (Democrat), and Milo Fritz (Republican). Marrou got 4,529 votes (40.5%), Martin got 2,172 votes (19.4%), and Fritz got 4,476 votes (40.0%). There were also 10 write-in votes (0.1%).

(source: Alaska election returns)

## 1999: Phillip A. Miller

On November 2, 1999, Libertarian Phillip A. Miller was elected to the Greenfield City Council (District 5) in Indiana. He faced Republican Briane M. House. Miller got 344 votes (51.9%), and House got 319 votes (48.1%).

(source: Hancock County, Indiana election returns)

## 2003: Susan Pyle and Russell Reichard

On November 4, 2003, Libertarians Susan K. Pyle and Russell E. Reichard were elected to the city council of Union City, Indiana. Pyle was elected in District 1. She got 448 votes (57.7%) and her opponent, Democrat Tom Binkley, got 328 votes (42.3%). Reichard was elected in District 2. He got 438 votes (57.3%) and his opponent, Democrat Greg Harshman, got 327 votes (42.7%).

(source: Randolph County, Indiana election returns)

## 2003: Susan Bell

On November 4, 2003, Libertarian Susan Bell was elected as Town Judge of Hagerstown, Indiana. She beat Republican Rebecca Justice. Bell got 274 votes (57.0%) and Justice got 207 votes (43.0%).

(source: LP News and Susan Bell)

## 2004: Ben Brandon

On November 2, 2004, Libertarian Ben Brandon ran for Executive of Dade County, Georgia, facing Democrat Jason Ford and Republican Allan Bradford. Brandon got 2,001 votes (33.3%), Ford got 1,586 votes (26.4%), and Bradford got 2,429 votes (40.4%). A runoff election between Brandon and Bradford was held on November 23, 2004. In the

runoff, Brandon got 1,614 votes (65.7%) and Bradford got 841 votes (34.3%).

(source: LP News)

## 2011: Miccah Shepherd

On November 8, 2011, Libertarian Miccah Shepherd ran for Clerk-Treasurer of Claypool, Indiana, against Republican Paul Berkey and Democrat Tricia Marino. Shepherd got 42 votes (43.8%), Berkey got 33 votes (37.9%), and Marino got 21 votes (28.0%).

(source: Kosciusko County, Indiana election returns)

## 2011: Dennis Denney

On November 8, 2011, Libertarian Dennis Denney ran for the North Ward seat on the Shirley, Indiana Town Council. Denney got 93 votes and his opponent, Republican Rebecca Hammer, got 92 votes.

(source: Henry County, Indiana election returns)

We have also learned of four cases in which Libertarians did not win their elections, but did beat one of their two Republican/Democratic opponents. The criteria are the same as those listed above.

## 1986: Andre Marrou (beat Republican)

In 1986, Andre Marrou ran for re-election in Alaska as State Representative for District 5B. The election was on November 4, 1986. Marrou got 3,838 votes (35.8%), beating Republican Marilyn Dimmick, who got 2,398 votes (22.4%). However, they both lost to Democrat C. E. Swackhammer, who got

4,467 votes (41.7%). There were also 8 write-in votes (0.1%).

(source: Alaska election returns)

## 2003: Gayle Bond (beat Democrat)

On November 4, 2003, Libertarian Gayle Bond was in an election for Hagerstown Clerk-Treasurer in Indiana. Bond got more votes than the Democratic candidate, but lost to the Republican candidate. (We do not have vote counts for this election.)

(source: Mark Rutherford)

## 2006: Paul Trujillo (beat Republican)

On November 7, 2006, Libertarian Paul Trujillo was in an election in New Mexico for Valencia County Commission, District 3. Trujillo got 1,011 votes (26.7%), beating Republican Alberto Carrillo, who got 995 votes (26.2%). However, they both lost to Democrat David Medina, who got 1,786 votes (47.1%).

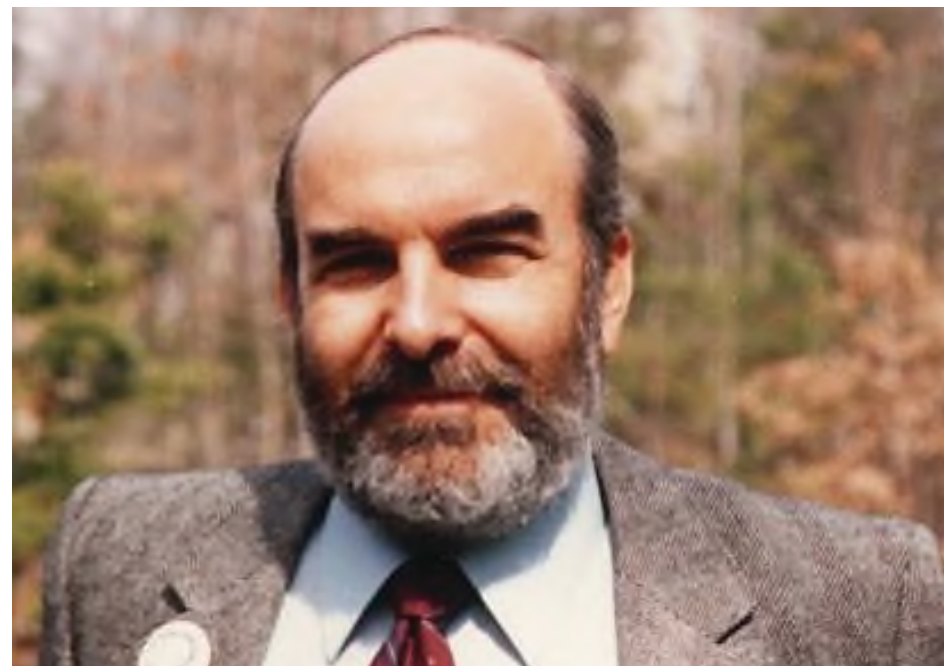
(source: 2006 LP election results compilation)

## 2009: Frank Benish (beat Democrat)

On November 3, 2009, Libertarian Frank Benish was in an election in New York for North Castle Town Supervisor. Benish got 1,003 votes (27.2%), beating Democrat Becky Kittredge, who got 991 votes (26.9%). They lost to Republican William R. Weaver, who got 1,695 votes (45.9%).

(source: Westchester County, New York election returns)

Readers who know of other Libertarian candidates who qualify for this list are encouraged to send information to [info@LP.org](mailto:info@LP.org).



Andre V. Marrou, while he was on a campaign visit to Richmond in 1988, as part of that year's Libertarian ticket. Photo by Marc Montoni.

## Libertarian Party 40th Anniversary BBQ Bash & Tribute to David F. Nolan

You are cordially invited to our  
40th anniversary party and tribute  
to David F. Nolan.

When: Saturday, December 10,  
2011 from 7-10 p.m.  
Where: Veranda Room  
Red Rock Casino Resort & Spa  
11011 W. Charleston  
Las Vegas, NV 89135  
Cost: \$40.00 per person includes  
a wonderful all-you-can-eat  
BBQ buffet  
RSVP: Please RSVP to [RSVP@LP.org](mailto:RSVP@LP.org)  
with number of  
guests

Proceeds to benefit the David F. Nolan memorial Building Fund for the purchase of our new Libertarian Party Headquarters.

If you are unable to attend and wish to contribute, please go to [www.lp.org/contribute](http://www.lp.org/contribute) and write "Building Fund" in the comments section or send a check to:

Libertarian Party; 2600 Virginia Ave NW #200; Washington, DC 20037; Attn: Building Fund.

Special \$115.00 room rates available at the Red Rock by calling 866-767-7773. Refer to group code: LIBERTAR-DEC

BBQ buffet to feature some of David's favorite foods including chili along with BBQ brisket, pork, salmon, vegetarian margherita pasta, along with all the fixings and desserts, including sweetened and unsweetened iced tea plus cash bar.

David F. Nolan (November 23, 1943 - November 21, 2010) is the principal founder of America's largest and most successful third party, the Libertarian Party. He held a degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and enjoyed a successful four-decade career in advertising, marketing and publishing.

In 1970, he created a new map of the political world to replace the old-fashioned left-right linear model. This is known as the "Nolan Chart."

David F. Nolan was born in Washington, D.C. and grew up in Maryland. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth.



# November 8, 2011 Election Results

by Arthur DiBianca

We have compiled a list of 110 Libertarian candidates who ran for office in the November 8, 2011 elections. Several were write-in candidates, and several were unopposed. Sixteen Libertarians were elected or re-elected. Those candidates are underlined. If “n/a” appears in the votes column, that means the election was canceled because the candidate was unopposed. “Not available” means the vote counts were not available at the time of writing.

Candidate	Office	# of Votes	% of Votes
<b>California</b>			
<u>Phillip Leavitt</u>	<u>Carlotta Community Services District Board</u>	n/a	
<b>Florida</b>			
Brent Hatley	Saint Petersburg City Council, District 3	6,126	30.8%
<b>Georgia</b>			
Lance Lamberton	Austell City Council, Ward 4	90	48.9%
Amanda Swafford	Flowery Branch City Council	214	42.4%
Doug Craig	Griffin City Council, District 4	115	24.5%
<b>Indiana</b>			
Rob Jozwiak	Anderson Mayor	1,846	13.7%
Chris Nealis	Anderson City Council, At-large	1,930	5.2%
Greg Noland	Anderson City Council, District 5	169	6.8%
Greg Hertzsch	Clarksville Town Council, At-large	202	3.2%
<u>Miccah Shepherd</u>	<u>Claypool Clerk-Treasurer</u>	42	43.8%
David Dills	Claypool Town Council, At-large	28	10.4%
Scott Wise	Columbia City Mayor	115	6.5%
Joshua Sefcheck	Columbus City Council	807	4.5%
Charles Blake	Elberfield Town Council	73	13.3%
Oscar Gibson	Elkhart Mayor	95	1.8%
Alexander Avery	Fort Wayne City Council	5,027	3.8%
Phil Miller	Greenfield Mayor	1,336	42.0%
Jeff Spoonamore	Greenwood Mayor	370	5.5%
<u>Susan Bell</u>	<u>Hagerstown Town Judge</u>	n/a	
Chris Bowen	Indianapolis Mayor	2,676	1.5%
Bill Levin	Indianapolis City-County Council, At-large	10,081	1.5%
Reid Miller	Indianapolis City-County Council, At-large	7,441	1.1%
Sheri Meinert	Indianapolis City-County Council, At-large	9,836	1.5%
Patrick Culley	Indianapolis City-County Council, At-large	9,249	1.4%
Michael Bishop	Indianapolis City-County Council, District 1	256	2.9%
Sam Goldstein	Indianapolis City-County Council, District 2	269	3.4%
Christopher Hodapp	Indianapolis City-County Council, District 5	228	2.5%
Kevin Fleming	Indianapolis City-County Council, District 6	175	2.7%
Matt Stone	Indianapolis City-County Council, District 7	181	3.1%
Joell Palmer	Indianapolis City-County Council, District 10	160	3.4%
Tom Mulcahy	Indianapolis City-County Council, District 11	206	2.6%
Shawn Sullivan	Indianapolis City-County Council, District 12	275	3.3%
Jason Sipe	Indianapolis City-County Council, District 13	209	3.4%
Zach Capehart	Indianapolis City-County Council, District 15	149	2.7%
Josh Featherstone	Indianapolis City-County Council, District 21	410	5.1%
Kent Raquet	Indianapolis City-County Council, District 23	248	3.5%
Ed Coleman	Indianapolis City-County Council, District 24	1,532	24.3%
Kevin Vail	Indianapolis City-County Council, District 25	561	4.6%
Rick Corbin	Ingalls Town Council, At-large	107	17.5%
Bob Isgrigg	Jeffersonville Mayor	629	5.9%
Marty Hollar	La Crosse Town Council, At-large	8	2.6%
Shane Starr	Martinsville City Council, District 5	87	20.2%
Mark Lindborg	Michigan City Council, Ward 6	20	2.5%
Thomas Keister	New Albany Mayor	88	1.3%
Joe Tucker	Noblesville City Council, District 5	440	25.7%
Matt Hisrich	Richmond City Council, District 1	189	27.1%
Debbie O'Neal	Rushville Mayor	284	15.4%
<u>Dennis Denney</u>	<u>Shirley Town Council, North Ward</u>	93	50.3%
Pat Farrell	South Bend Mayor	1,008	6.8%
Daniel Stevens	Warsaw City Council, At-large	386	15.8%
Mike Waite	Westfield Mayor	245	5.9%
<b>Iowa</b>			
<u>Roger Fritz</u>	<u>Roland Mayor (write-in)</u>	33	54.1%
<b>Kentucky</b>			
Ken Moellman	State Treasurer	37,309	4.6%

Candidate	Office	# of Votes	% of Votes
<b>Maine</b>			
<u>Bob Mills</u>	<u>Biddeford City Council, Ward 5</u>	393	50.3%
<b>Maryland</b>			
Lorenzo Gaztanaga	Baltimore City Council President	2,389	5.4%
Doug McNeil	Baltimore City Council, District 11	143	4.5%
Scott Spencer	Baltimore City Council, District 12	94	3.4%
Ron Owens-Bey	Baltimore City Council, District 13	160	4.8%
<b>Massachusetts</b>			
Robert Walsh	Lynn City Council, At-large	2,552	9.1%
<b>Michigan</b>			
<u>Andy LeCureaux</u>	<u>Hazel Park City Council</u>	699	23.8%
<b>Minnesota</b>			
Tylor Slinger	Saint Paul City Council, Ward 3	164	2.1%
<b>Mississippi</b>			
Harold M. Taylor	State Representative, District 6	1,310	11.6%
Sean Holmes	State Representative, District 33	297	3.8%
Jan “Jay” Butler	State Representative, District 35	not avail.	
Donna Knezevich	State Representative, District 106	1,044	17.1%
<b>Missouri</b>			
Bill Slantz	State Representative, District 15	94	2.5%
<b>New Jersey</b>			
Darren Young	State Assembly, District 21	1,241	1.6%
Dave Schneck	State Assembly, District 30	974	1.5%
Julian Hecklen	State Assembly, District 37	623	1.0%
Vinko Grskovic	State Assembly, District 38	687	0.9%
<b>New York</b>			
Drew Beeman	Monroe County Legislature, District 25	191	10.0%
Max Kessler	Monroe County Legislature, District 27	281	10.4%
<b>North Carolina</b>			
Alexander Vuchnich	Charlotte City Council	6,119	2.0%
<u>T. J. Rohr</u>	<u>Lenoir City Council</u>	1,044	23.8%
<b>Ohio</b>			
Kurt Liston	Akron City Council, Ward 1	347	6.8%
Nathan Eberly	Bowling Green City Council, Ward 3 (write-in)	not avail.	
Mark Noble	Columbus City Council	33,773	6.8%
Bob Bridges	Columbus City Council	24,139	4.8%
Don Kissick	Elida School Board	689	7.5%
<u>Jerald Robertson</u>	<u>Elmwood Place Village Council (write-in)</u>	102	34.0%
John Stewart	Gahanna City Council, Ward 4 (write-in)	not avail.	
<u>Todd Grayson</u>	<u>Perrysburg City Council</u>	3,152	17.9%
Mike Burkholder	Troy City Auditor	1,862	31.0%
<u>Joe Calfo</u>	<u>Wellington Exempted Village School District Board of Education</u>	1,462	35.8%
<b>Pennsylvania</b>			
Mary Lea Lucas	Clarion County Commissioner	499	3.2%
Michael Robertson	Clarion County Commissioner	535	3.4%
Rayburn Smith	Clarion County Treasurer	1,333	17.5%
<u>James Fryman</u>	<u>Franklin Area School Board</u>	1,009	18.1%
Tim Mullen	Luzerne County Council	10,763	2.3%
Mike Lacey	Luzerne County Council	11,104	2.3%
Brian Bergman	Luzerne County Council	3,732	0.8%
<u>Vernon Etzel</u>	<u>Oil City Treasurer</u>	1,189	98.1%
<u>Erik Viker</u>	<u>Selinsgrove Borough Council</u>	358	20.6%
Brenda Fabian	Selinsgrove School Board	1,022	8.6%
Mary Lea Lucas	Strattanville Borough Council	39	14.1%
Vance Mays	Sugarcreek Borough Council	43	28.5%
<u>Vance Mays</u>	<u>Valley Grove Area School Board</u>	663	96.4%
Timothy Russell	Venango County Magisterial District Judge, District 28-03-04	497	40.5%
Michael G. Thomas	Venango County Commissioner	2,065	12.4%
<u>Patricia Fryman</u>	<u>Victory Township Auditor</u>	60	100.0%
Betsy Summers	Wilkes-Barre Mayor	737	10.6%
Michelle Brixius-Kasich	Yardley Borough Council	33	1.6%
David Moser	York School Board	745	9.1%

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# More Election Results

...continued from page 6

Candidate	Office	# of Votes	% of Votes
<b>Texas</b>			
Joshua Baker	State Representative, District 14	266	2.0%
Arthur M. Thomas IV	San Antonio River Authority	3,592	5.7%
Roger V. Gary	San Antonio River Authority	6,178	9.9%
Michael Idrogo	San Antonio River Authority	2,844	4.5%
<b>Virginia</b>			
Michael Kane	House of Delegates, District 41	5,508	31.5%
Glenn McGuire	House of Delegates, District 95	2,107	22.7%
<b>Washington</b>			
Larey McLaren	Alderwood Water District Commissioner, Position 3	16,832	37.1%

# Why Aren't People Renewing Their Memberships?

by Wes Benedict

“Please renew your Libertarian Party membership today. However, if you won’t renew, at least please tell us why! Seriously. Don’t hold back! Tell us, whatever the reason.”

That was the opening to a renewal letter and survey we recently mailed to 25,000 Libertarians who had let their memberships expire over the past several years.

Over 1,200 people responded. We tallied the responses from the first 1,000. We selected statements to include in

our survey based on feedback we receive regularly.

The two most common reasons cited by respondents for not renewing were that they couldn’t afford it, and that they were supporting Ron Paul instead of the LP.

Interestingly, the results show that while it’s impossible to please everyone, we come close to hitting in the middle in at least one area—the Tea Party. Eighty-four thought the LP was too close to the Tea Party, while 82 thought we weren’t working closely enough with the Tea Party.

Many thanks to the 65 respondents who filled out the survey AND enclosed a renewal—and are therefore receiving *LP News* again!

## Membership Survey Responses

### Will you renew your Libertarian Party membership?

65	Yes. I’m enclosing my renewal today.
37	I will renew later.
221	I might renew later.
399	I do not plan to renew, period.

### If you don’t want to renew your membership, why not? Please tell us. Check all that apply:

259	I can’t afford to renew my membership.
36	I don’t like the national LP, but I support my state or local LP.
248	I’m supporting Ron Paul instead of the Libertarian Party.
156	I’m unhappy with past Libertarian Party candidates.
140	I’m unhappy with Libertarian Party leadership.
44	The LP is too liberal.
62	The LP is too conservative.
84	The LP is too close to the Tea Party.
82	The LP is not working closely enough with the Tea Party.
28	I’m joining the Democratic Party.
33	I’m joining the Republican Party.
171	I don’t want to associate with a political party anymore.
56	I plan to stop voting.
156	The LP hasn’t won enough elections.
194	I disagree with the Libertarian Party’s stance on these issues: (People listed lots of different issues but they haven’t been compiled.)

# Recent LP.org Opinion Polls

by Arthur DiBianca

LP.org regularly features online opinion polls. The results of the most recent polls are listed below. To view results of past polls, visit LP.org/poll.

### Which party’s candidate do you think will most likely win the presidency in 2012?

a Democrat	669	24%
a Republican	1,415	51%
a Libertarian	302	11%
an independent	46	2%
other	16	1%
I have no idea	270	10%
refuse to answer	51	2%

### How should we deal with the financial problems of the Social Security system?

We should cut Social Security benefits.	596	13%
We should raise Social Security taxes.	228	5%
We should do both -- cut benefits and raise taxes.	278	6%
We should completely get rid of Social Security.	2,392	53%
We should not worry about it -- things will sort themselves out.	104	2%
Other	950	21%

### Which one of the following LP positions strikes you the most as being “too extreme”?

Ending prohibition of marijuana.	200	10%
Ending the wars in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Libya.	99	5%
Cutting government spending across the board.	109	6%
Cutting taxes.	68	3%
I think all of the above positions are too extreme.	23	1%
I don’t think any of the above positions are too extreme.	1,468	75%

# America’s Third Largest Political Party

by Wes Benedict

It’s a claim we often make: the Libertarian Party is America’s third largest political party. By most measures it’s accurate. The data below is from various issues of *Ballot Access News*, which is edited by Richard Winger. While there are many more minor political parties in addition to the four listed below, by most measures those have

been the four largest in recent years.

“2010 WAS BEST MID-TERM ELECTION FOR MINOR PARTY AND INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES IN OVER 75 YEARS.” That was the headline on the December 2010 issue of *Ballot Access News*. The article then gave positive statistics on election victories, share of vote for top office, voter registrations, and states with a ballot-qualified party other than Democratic or Republican.

	Libertarian	Green	Constitution	Working Families
<b>2012 Presidential Ballot Access - Total States (as of Nov. 1, 2011)</b>	29	16	12	n/a
2010 Votes for State Senate	375,367	17,972	45,146	173,714
2010 Vote for State House	530,648	172,002	97,348	160,240
2010 Vote for Governor	731,134	488,919	872,494	26,308
2010 Vote for U.S. Senate	780,676	526,669	338,593	233,483
2010 Vote for U.S. House	1,027,372	252,688	251,741	202,762
2010 State Legislative Nominees	318	82	98	10
October 2010 Voter Registration Totals	278,446	246,145	476,669*	44,867
2008 U.S. House Nominee on Ballots	127	58	41	1

\*Includes 413,032 in the American Independent Party (AIP) of California. AIP California’s affiliation status with the Constitution Party has been in dispute.





# 2012 Libertarian Party Candidates for President

Candidates for president who met certain qualifications were asked to submit 250 words informing readers about their campaigns for President. To qualify for this LP News issue, candidates had to have filed statements of Libertarian Party candidacy with the Federal Election Commission, and be Sustaining Members of the national Libertarian Party.

The nominee for president will be selected at our 2012 national convention May 2-6 in Las Vegas. Additional candidates may enter the race between now and the nominating convention. If you would like to help select the Libertarian Party's nominee, please plan to attend the convention in Las Vegas and contact your state party to find out how to become a delegate.



**RJ Harris**

**R**J Harris is a candidate for the Libertarian Party's 2012 nomination for President of the United States. RJ is also a career National Guard Officer and three-time combat veteran having just returned from Afghanistan in August 2011.

Additionally he has been a small business owner and an Air Traffic Controller in the Federal Aviation Administration. RJ is a University of Oklahoma graduate in Philosophy and a third year law student at the University of Oklahoma College of Law. He is a Constitutional Libertarian and a prominent leader in the nation-wide grassroots Liberty Candidate movement having run a vigorous 2010 campaign for Oklahoma's 4th U.S. Congressional District against incumbent, (R). Tom Cole.

With help from the Harris Campaign the OKLP is on pace to gain ballot access in Oklahoma for the first time since 2000. RJ has appeared on the Lisa Wexler Show, Fox News' Freedom Watch with Judge Andrew Napolitano, before numerous Tea Party candidate panels and been the featured guest on talk-radio programs across the country. Most recently RJ's Presidential Campaign has been featured in the Oklahoman, the Tulsa World and dozens of

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**James Ogle**

**M**y name is James Orlando Ogle III and I'm running for president of the United States of America with the Libertarian Party because I support the Libertarian Party's philosophy of the non initiation of force and increased liberty. My campaign for US president has one main purpose and goal which is to create harmony, peace and order for all US citizens, through the most mathematical and advanced voting system known since the mid-1800s, the Sainte-Lague parliament seat distribution system under ranked choice voting.

The Sainte-Lague system can give every voter the liberty to self categorize under any party/category they wish without penalty. This needed free speech reform would help inform the voter inside the voting booth, with a word by the representative's name while on the ballot, at the very moment when the name is being considered for a vote. To attain this goal I will try to access the ballot with the Libertarian Party and help the Libertarian Party to improve their voting system away from their current system where they use a single-winner district to nominate a US president to one of a 1000-member district, where #1 is president and #2 is

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**Carl Person**

**C**arl Person would obtain millions of votes as the only believable JOBS, JOBS, JOBS candidate by

1. Attracting the 99% with a unique, practical Libertarian program for job creation and economic reform;

2. Explaining why post-secondary vocational education should be deregulated;

3. Showing how Obama could create millions of jobs—at no cost to government—by making the 1st 3 employees of all employers “independent contractors” free of regulation (“1st 3 Are Free” program);

4. Using his legal and small business skills to create a sustainable economy;

5. Identifying higher education and its antiquated curricula as primary cause of unemployment;

6. Being most knowledgeable about the specific deregulation needed to create private-sector employment for millions;

7. Having fresh and unique Libertarian ideas for use by all parties;

8. Creating a macro paraprofessional field of “Assistant to Owner of a Small Business” involving many millions of new jobs;

9. Grass roots campaign

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**Bill Still**

**T**he history of the last thousand years is essentially the history of humanity's escape from serfdom—the battle for human freedom—freedom from the wealthiest Lords; freedom of religion, speech, and the press. This freedom, though an inalienable right of humankind, has been secured for we, the people, by our common consent to pool our resources and form governments of, by, and for the people—government in the public interest.

Governments of self-termination have ridden a rocky road; freedom is not free. But nature abhors a vacuum. Anarchy is not an option; only government where power is separated to the maximum possible extent can possibly work to secure liberty. But government has gone awry. It is consolidating its power AGAINST we, the people, at an alarming rate now. Why? Because it gave up the money power. The money power is not the only issue, but it is certainly the most important today.

I am supported by great people. My core economic team consists of Karl Denninger, head of \*Market Ticker\*, and Nathan Martin, head of \*Nathan's Economic Edge\*. Another team member is Stephanie Jasky, founder of \*FedUpUSA\*. She helped start

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**R. Lee Wrights**

**A**s I traveled the country the past three years visiting libertarian groups, many people—especially young people—challenged me with the same question: “Why isn't the Libertarian Party out front in opposition to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Why isn't the LP anti-war? Why aren't we demanding we bring our troops home?”

This passionate outcry from grassroots activists watered the seed of this campaign. Our nation is tired of war. I'm seeking the Libertarian nomination for President of the United States because I want our message in 2012 to be: “Stop all war! Stop the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, stop the war on drugs and alternative lifestyles, stop the war on civil liberties—Stop all war.”

Libertarianism is more than a political philosophy. It's a way of life. We must be it and live it. The libertarian promise of peace and prosperity is one Americans are longing to hear. We don't need to soften, refine, modify or craft what we believe to appeal to conservatives or liberals to win votes. Instead, we must embrace our beliefs and wear them proudly.

As your nominee for president I'm ready, willing and able to take this bold stand. I've never been afraid to speak truth to pow-

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Ed Thompson, with his supporters.

## Remembering Ed Thompson, a Remarkable Man

by Julie Fox

Few people touch the lives of others as Ed Thompson did. The world was left a bit emptier when Ed finally succumbed to his battle with pancreatic cancer on October 22. The number of people who attended his services, the crowd that filled his Tee Pee Supper Club following his funeral, and the many articles written on his unique and interesting life, are all a testament to just how many people knew and loved Ed.

I will always remember the day I met Allan Edward Thompson. It was at the 2002 national Libertarian Party convention in Indianapolis, when Ed was running as the Libertarian candidate for governor of Wisconsin. I don't recall the words of the speech he gave to the delegates that day, but I do remember that the applause Ed received with his passionate speech about liberty and the Wisconsin governor's race was greater than any I have heard before or since, at any Libertarian convention.

Ed became involved in politics in 1997, after police raided his Tee Pee Supper Club in Tomah, along with 42 other Monroe County taverns, for illegal poker machines.

Of the four bar owners who refused to plead to lesser charges, Ed was the only one who went to trial, or nearly so. A jury could not be convened from the original jury panel because most of the panel members were biased in Ed's favor. The judge then ordered bailiffs to stop people in the street and haul them in as potential jurors. When that failed the bailiffs

brought in nursing home residents. That failed as well. The D.A. was forced to drop the charges. Soon afterward Ed became head of the Monroe County Tavern League.

In 2000 Ed won election as Mayor of Tomah, booting a two-term incumbent out of office. He served until 2002. In 2005 Ed was elected to the Tomah city council in a write-in campaign he was not even aware of. He won by a landslide, with Ed's vote being one of the few cast for his opponent. Ed served again as Mayor of Tomah from 2008 to 2010.

Ed was diagnosed with fourth-stage pancreatic cancer during his run for Wisconsin State Senate last year. Despite the diagnosis being publicized, Ed only lost his race by 403 votes. He agonized for weeks over whether to run as a Libertarian or a Republican. In the end he decided to run as a Republican, a decision he told me last July that he had ultimately regretted.

What Ed is best known for in the Libertarian Party is his race for Governor of Wisconsin in 2002. As the former mayor of Tomah, and the brother of former Wisconsin Governor Tommy Thompson, Ed had significant name recognition going into the race. But he also had something else. Ed had developed a strong and colorful reputation as the fun-loving and generous owner of Mr. Ed's Tee Pee Supper Club in Tomah. When told he wasn't qualified for Governor, because he had never been part of state government, Ed replied with a smile, "Yeah, I've got that going for me."

Ed was the most successful third-

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## Members Recruit New Members

by Wes Benedict

On September 19, we emailed our members, challenging them to recruit new members. The instructions were to write "recruited by (first name, last name, city)" on the membership form or in the comments section of our website so we could recognize the member recruiters. Thanks go to the eight people who recruited a total of nine new members.

People who recruited new members (as of 10/28/2011):

Eugene Clark	Odell	TX	2 new members
Brent Gernant	Waterloo	IA	1 new member
Brian Holtz	Los Altos Hills	CA	1 new member
Jillian Mack	Cincinnati	OH	1 new member
Duke McGonigal	Philadelphia	PA	1 new member
Guy McLendon	Houston	TX	1 new member
Mark Tavill	Carmichael	CA	1 new member
Matthew Watt	Los Angeles	CA	1 new member

The easiest way to have someone new join the LP is online at our website: LP.org/membership. Most of our printed brochures have membership forms as part of them as well. You can also download and print membership forms here: LP.org/campaign-resources.

## Rupert Boneham to Seek the Libertarian Party Nomination for Governor

by Indiana LP Editor

Rupert Boneham has announced his intentions to seek the nomination of the Libertarian Party for the office of the Governor of Indiana.

"It's time for a change in Indiana," said Boneham. "Hoosiers have consistently voted in professional politicians and look at the results. Hoosiers should have a different choice in 2012. Through my experiences running my small businesses and my nonprofits, I have witnessed firsthand the dysfunctional state of our current government. We have to move in a different direction, and we can't turn the reins of government over to the same politicians that created the mess."

Boneham continued, "I am in a unique position to bring together Hoosiers of all walks of life to serve our state. I am not beholden to any special interests. I have only one interest: Empowering Hoosiers to give back to their communities. If the government puts up roadblocks, then they should be repealed."

"Many people are aware of me through one small aspect of my life, which was my time on Survivor. I've come up from humble beginnings to own and operate several small businesses. I was then on this reality TV show that allowed me a platform to raise money for my charity, Rupert's Kids. Through that



Ruper Boneham, LP candidate for governor.

work I've been blessed, and I've put almost everything back in to my community. I am looking forward to telling Hoosiers my entire story."

Boneham came into a national spotlight through his appearances on Survivor. During the first "Heroes and Villains" season, out of 38 million votes, 34 million viewers selected Boneham as their favorite survivor, and awarded him check for one million dollars. This remains the highest vote total ever in a modern American TV reality show competition.

After winning his million dollars,

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# The 40-Year History of the Libertarian Party

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state-of-the-art computer, the Data General Eclipse S-140. The party celebrates its 10th anniversary at its national convention in Denver. About 20 Libertarians now hold public office around the USA.

1982: The party blasts President Ronald Reagan for proposing the “largest tax increase in U.S. history.” The LP runs 839 candidates in November—setting a record that won’t be surpassed for another 16 years. Several states also set candidate records: Michigan (103) and Texas (121). In the November election, Louisiana congressional candidate James Agnew receives 23% of the vote. Alaska gubernatorial candidate Dick Randolph receives 15% of the vote. Arizona gubernatorial candidate Sam Steiger receives 5% of the vote.

1983: The party’s national HQ signs up for something called “electronic mail” also known as “EMAIL.” The party suffers a damaging blow at the national convention in New York City when the presidential nomination battle turns ugly. After David Bergland defeats Earl Ravenal on the seventh ballot, many of Ravenal’s supporters leave the party—causing a “talent drain” and bad feelings that hinder the party for years to come. The party’s HQ moves to Houston. Thirteen Libertarians are elected to office during the year.

1984: The party gets its first 800 number for information requests. A poll of state Chairs and National Committee members reveals that “taxation” is considered the most important political issue. In Spring elections, Libertarians win office in Wisconsin, Virginia, California, and Arizona. On the ballot in 39 states, David Bergland (with running mate Jim Lewis) comes in third in the race for president for the first time in LP history, but wins a disappointing 228,705 votes. Andre Marrou becomes the third Libertarian elected to the Alaska legislature, winning 40.5% of the vote in a three-way race. Libertarians are elected to 11 more local offices nationwide.

1985: The number of Libertarians in office creeps up to 49 in 22 states. In a setback for the party, former Alaska legislator Dick Randolph joins the Republican Party to run for governor. He later loses in the primary. Former LP Chair Paul Jacob is convicted of refusing to register for the draft, and serves six months in prison. Former Barry

Goldwater speechwriter Karl Hess joins the LP. The Advocates for Self-Government is formed by Marshall Fritz.

1986: Former call girl Norma Jean Almodovar raises eyebrows when she runs for lieutenant governor in California. Her campaign poster—showing her wearing only the red tape she promises to cut—is enormously popular. More than 200 candidates across the U.S. receive 2.9 million votes. Ray Cullen, candidate for Treasurer in California, gets 570,000 votes, the largest ever for a third-party candidate in that state. In Alaska, state legislator Andre Marrou is targeted by the Republican Party, and loses his re-election bid. In LP News, Libertarians marvel over a newfangled invention called “computer bulletin boards”—and discuss how to use them for political purposes.

1987: Doug Anderson is elected Elections Commissioner in Denver. Libertarians sweep the city council race in Big Water, Utah, winning every seat. Former U.S. Congressman Ron Paul (Texas) resigns from the Republican Party and joins the Libertarian Party. In a first-ballot win, the Seattle convention nominates Ron Paul for President and Andre Marrou for Vice President. The party’s national HQ moves back to Washington, D.C.

1988: The Paul/Marrou ticket, on the ballot in 46 states and the District of Columbia, comes in third, receiving more than 430,000 votes nationwide—almost twice the total of any other “third” party. About 360 LP candidates are on the ballot, and, by year’s end, more than 100 Libertarians hold public office.

1989: The California LP wins a Supreme Court victory—a first for any state LP—when the court strikes down a state law that dictates how political parties must organize. The Society for Individual Liberty (SIL) merges with Libertarian International to form the International Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL). For the first time, C-SPAN broadcasts the party’s national convention in Philadelphia, airing 65 hours of speakers and floor debates.

1990: Future VP candidate Nancy Lord takes her first foray into politics: She is nominated as the LP candidate for mayor of Washington, D.C. Libertarians start a campaign to send free-market books to Lithu-

ania and other Eastern European countries, trying to help the transition from Communism to liberty. In November, approximately 2 million people vote for Libertarian Party candidates. Election Day is “Double Digit Day,” as many LP candidates for U.S. Congress and state house draw percentage numbers in teens, twenties, and thirties. A 5% vote for New Hampshire gubernatorial candidate Miriam Luce qualifies the state Libertarian Party as an “official” party with ballot status.

1991: Libertarians rally in Washington, D.C. against President George Bush’s war in the Persian Gulf. New Hampshire state legislators Cal Warburton (July) and Finlay Rothhaus (December) resign from the Republican Party and join the Libertarian Party—giving the party its first state legislators since the 1980s. At the Chicago nominating convention in August, former Alaska state legislator Andre Marrou wins the presidential nomination. Nancy Lord gets the VP nod. In December, Libertarians across the USA celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights. Libertarians in San Diego win a court battle to stop \$1.6 billion in new taxes. “The resurgence of libertarianism is one of the less noted but most remarkable developments of recent years,” notes E.J. Dionne, Jr. in his book *Why Americans Hate Politics*.

1992: In New Hampshire’s presidential primary election on February 18, Andre Marrou beats incumbent President George Bush in Dixville Notch, the first town to vote in the nation. While Marrou’s vote in the general election is disappointing—281,000—there is good news in local and state elections: Four Libertarian state legislators are elected in New Hampshire. In addition to the re-election of Warburton and Rothhaus, Don Gorman and Andy Borsa win office. The 700+ Libertarian Party candidates nationwide receive more than 3.7 million votes for state and federal offices. The 23 Libertarian candidates for U.S. Senate receive over one million votes, the highest total for a nationally organized third party since 1914.

1993: In April, Libertarians are surprised and baffled when President Clinton claims to have an “almost Libertarian” position on some issues. In June, LP National Director Stuart Reges testifies before Congress, endorsing legislation to make it easier for third-party candidates to participate in presidential debates. In Waco, Texas, Libertarians protest the FBI’s handling of the Branch Davidian standoff—and the tragic,

fatal conclusion. The LP launches “Project Healthy Choice” to oppose Clinton’s health care plan and publicize free-market solutions. In “off-year” elections, 15 Libertarians win public office, scoring victories in local and county races across the country. Miriam Luce is appointed to the New Hampshire State Liquor Commission and Bonnie Flickinger wins election as Mayor of Moreno Valley, California. Libertarian influence continues to grow. *Investor’s Business Daily* reports: “Long consigned to the political wilderness and dismissed as a fringe element, libertarians are seeing their ideas accepted by state and local governments.”

1994: During the year, more than 40 Libertarians are elected or appointed to public office, setting an all-time record. Libertarians get publicity—much of it bad—when fans of “shock jock” Howard Stern pack the New York LP convention, and give him the party’s gubernatorial nomination. The publicity stunt ends a short time later when Stern drops out of the race. Meanwhile, in Washington, a Republican Congressman asks the LP to support his “A to Z” tax cut bill, and the party organizes a nationwide lobbying effort. And in November, more than 650 Libertarian candidates run for office. More than 2.2 million people vote Libertarian. In disappointing news, the New Hampshire legislative delegation is knocked down from four to two.

1995: In January, the party issues its “Challenge to the Republicans,” asking the GOP-controlled Congress to abolish 21 federal programs, agencies, or policies. The GOP declines. In June, the LP moves its national headquarters into the prestigious Watergate Office Building, which the *Wall Street Journal* dubs “a sign of the times” of the party’s growing stature. The party joins a coalition to fight the Communications Decency Act. In July, *USA Today* reports that libertarianism is the de facto politics of Generation X, and *Insight* magazine makes the LP its cover story. In November, three more Libertarians are elected to city councils: Bruce Van Buren (Avondale Estates, Georgia), Dewayne Metheney (Auburn, Georgia), and Doug Carlsten (Brighton, Colorado.) In December, the Libertarian National Committee passes a resolution opposing American military involvement in Bosnia.

1996: The Libertarian Party celebrates its 25th birthday, and a Gallup Poll says that

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# More Libertarian History...

...continued from page 10

20% of Americans—50 million people—are broadly libertarian. At its convention in Washington, D.C. in July, best-selling author Harry Browne gets the party's presidential nomination. Jo Jorgensen is picked for the VP slot. In November, the Libertarian Party becomes the first third party in American history to earn ballot status in all 50 states two presidential elections in a row. Browne wins 485,759 votes in the general election, the second-best showing in party history. In all, the party runs 730 candidates for office, and 10 of them break the 100,000-vote barrier. LP candidates for statewide and federal office alone win 5.4 million votes, and seven Libertarians are elected or re-elected to office. "The Libertarian Party has stabilized into America's third largest political party," reports the *Memphis Flyer*.

1997. In March, ABC newsman Hugh Downs comes out of the closet as a libertarian supporter, saying, "All the good ideas belong to the Libertarians." In May, LP member Walker Chandler wins a Supreme Court decision, overturning a Georgia law that mandates drug tests for political candidates. In Alabama, the state LP spearheads the campaign to kill fingerprints on drivers licenses. Charles Murray publishes "What It Means to Be A Libertarian." The LP joins a third-party coalition to fight for nationwide ballot access reform. Colorado Libertarians help defeat a \$16 billion tax increase. It's another record-setting "off-year" election for the Libertarian Party, with 39 Libertarians elected to office in November—including four city council winners: Fred Collins (Berkley, Michigan); Ron Wittig (New Meadows, Idaho); Bob DeBrosse (Piqua, Ohio); and John Gearhart (Palous, Washington). In all, 64 party members join the ranks of Libertarian office-holders during the course of the year, and the party passes the 200 figure for Libertarians in office.

1998: In February, African-American civil rights leader Roy Innis joins the party; talk radio powerhouse Art Bell follows suit in May. In California, Art Olivier becomes mayor of Bellflower, while in Georgia, Dewayne Metheney is elevated to acting mayor of Auburn. In July, LP delegates at the National Convention vote to support the impeachment of President Clinton for "crimes against the Constitution." In November, the party sets a new record by

running 853 candidates in 44 states—and runs its first ever non-presidential year TV advertising. Neil Randall wins election as a State Representative in Vermont, while Zenneth Caudill and Mary Dufour win partisan office as Jefferson Township Trustees in Indiana. In all, 19 LP candidates are elected. In Florida, the LP-backed Revision 11 dramatically rolls back ballot access barriers.

1999: The party breaks new ground in political activism with its Internet-based campaign against the FDIC's "Know Your Customer" bank spying regulation. After being flooded by 250,000 complaints—170,000 of them via e-mail from the LP's site—the FDIC withdraws the plan. In June, the party launches the StopTheWarNow.com website to rally opposition to the U.S. military attack on Kosovo. Party founder David Nolan is named one of the "2,000 Outstanding Intellectuals of the 20th Century" by the International Biographical Centre in England. Fourteen Libertarians are elected to office in local Spring elections, and more than 215 Libertarian candidates are on the ballot in state and local elections in November; 20 of them win office.

2000: A "Boycott Nosy Census Questions" campaign during the spring generates national newspaper, radio, and TV publicity for the party. The number of registered Libertarian voters passes 224,000, a 10% increase in less than a year. Folk singer Melanie joins the party. A Rasmussen Research poll reveals that 16% of Americans are ideologically libertarian. During the year, Libertarians win two Supreme Court cases: Striking down California's "blanket primary" and ending Indiana's random drug-search roadblocks. The Anaheim, California convention again nominates Harry Browne for president and former Bellflower, California mayor Art Olivier for VP. They head a ticket of 1,436 LP candidates, including

256 candidates for U.S. House—the first time in 80 years a third party has contested a majority of Congressional seats. In one of the closest elections in American history, the LP residential ticket gets 382,892 votes. However, 34 Libertarians are elected to office,

Massachusetts U.S. Senate candidate Carla Howell wins a record 11.9% of the vote, and the LP's candidates for U.S. House win 1.6 million votes—a new record for any third party. In all, LP candidates earn more than 10 million votes across the USA. "By any reasonably objective criterion, the Libertarian Party is the most successful and best organized of the minor parties," states WorldNetDaily.com.

2001: In Spring elections, 19 Libertarians are elected to office. In Tennessee, Libertarians play a key role in defeating a proposed state income tax. Cult rocker Mojo Nixon joins the LP. In November, the party runs about 300 candidates—a record slate in an off-year election, and sets another record when 66 Libertarians are elected to local office. A new study in *Ballot Access News* reports that the LP is the most successful third party in 50 years, based on the "best" vote totals of candidates for governor and U.S. Senate. The number of Libertarians holding public office closes in on 500.

2002: The party runs 1,642 candidates for office, the largest slate of third-party candidates since before World War II. More than 3.4 million Americans cast at least one Libertarian vote on Election Day. The LP also makes history when its U.S. House candidates receive over 1 million votes for the second time—a feat achieved previously only by the Democrats and Republicans.

2003: In the "off-year" election, 46 Libertarians are elected to local office. In Michigan, three incumbent LP candidates are re-elected in a "clean sweep" of city council races: Mark Owen in Owosso; Andy LeCureaux in Hazel Park; and Bill Bradley in South Haven. As the year ends, the party has nearly 600 officeholders (including

appointed offices), which is more than all other third parties combined.

2004: The Libertarian Party nominates Michael Badnarik for president at the national convention in Atlanta. In November, the presidential ticket gets 397,367 votes. American voters are able to vote for Badnarik in 48 states, which leads all other third parties. Libertarians running for U.S. House receive over 1,053,000 votes.

2005: The LP offers the American people an "Iraq Exit Strategy." The party passes a Zero Dues Plan to focus on electing Libertarians to office.

2006: At the Portland national convention the LP votes to consolidate its platform, reducing the number of planks from 61 to 15 in order to reach out to new voters. The Libertarian Leadership School is launched. Libertarians running for U.S. House receive over 650,000 votes.

2007: In the "off-year" election, 19 of 98 candidates are elected or re-elected to public office. Former congressman Bob Barr starts serving on the LNC.

2008: The LP nominates former congressman Bob Barr for president at the national convention in Denver. The presidential ticket gets 523,686 votes in November. 50 Libertarians are elected or re-elected to public office. Two Libertarian candidates in Texas and Georgia each receive over one million votes. Libertarians running for U.S. House receive over 1,078,000 votes, breaking the congressional million-vote threshold for the fourth time.

2009: Throughout the year, 48 Libertarians are elected or re-elected to public office. In Indianapolis, Councilmember Ed Coleman officially switches his affiliation to Libertarian. By the end of the year, there are 146 Libertarians holding elected offices.

2010: Over 800 Libertarian candidates run for office in November. Libertarians running for U.S. House receive over 1,073,000 votes. Pamela Brown, running for California Lieutenant Governor against both a Republican and a Democrat, receives 574,640 votes. 38 Libertarians are elected or re-elected to public office, and by the end of the year there are 154 Libertarians holding elected office.

2011: The Libertarian National Committee begins raising money to buy a building for the LP Headquarters.



The Libertarian Party's newsletter for volunteers, activists, officers, and candidates. This issue is dated Fall/Winter 1995.

## AFFILIATE News And Events

*Affiliate news and events are provided to LP News by Libertarian Party state affiliates.*

### Georgia

*Keeping Busy in the Peach State*

Over Labor Day weekend, the Libertarian Party of Georgia held its first annual Polo Fundraiser at Chukkar Farm in Alpharetta, Georgia. The farm is a working horse farm, as well as polo and event facility operated by three-time Libertarian Party of Georgia candidate, Jack Cashin.

Georgia Libertarians also unveiled their second float for the 41st annual Atlanta PRIDE Festival and Parade, which is the largest PRIDE celebration in the Southeast United States. An estimated 400,000 attendees saw our "Freedom is Fabulous" float travel down Peachtree Street on October 9.

Currently, our Executive Director and several members of the Executive Committee are participating in "Liberty for Life - A Challenge To Promote Better Health and Liberty," where participants are committed to losing weight during an 11-week period. Our Libertarian participants are donating pledges for each pound lost to the Party in November.

This fall, the state party had three candidates running for office in municipal elections: Doug Craig, Lance Lambertson, and Amanda Swafford. Swafford was an elected Libertarian running for re-election.

We are also planning our 2012 convention, bringing classical liberals to "The Classic City" of Athens, Georgia February 24 and 25. Activities will include a debate between candidates running for the Libertarian Party nomination for president.

### Indiana

*Most Candidates in 2011 out of all LP State Affiliates*

Libertarian candidates around Indiana posted strong numbers for third-party candidates on Election Day. The Libertarian Party of Indiana ran more candidates than any other state Lib-

ertarian Party at 45 candidates receiving a total of 59,510 votes.

Most notably, three candidates scored a victory. Susan Bell was re-elected for the second time to the position of Hagerstown Judge. Bell was unopposed in the Wayne County election. In Koskiusko County, Miccah Shepherd was a victor in his race for Claypool Clerk/Treasurer with 44% of the vote in a three-way race. In Hancock County, Dennis Denney won his race for Shirley Town Council by ONE vote. In Greenfield, a Libertarian candidate had one of the more impressive results in LPIN history. Phil Miller won 42% of the vote in a two-way race with a Republican. Miller, a former Libertarian Greenfield City Councilor, blanketed over 75% of the city with literature with an organized canvassing effort and local advertising.

Two other Mayoral candidates won double-digits in three way races. In Anderson, Rob Jozwiak won 13.67% of the vote. In Rushville, Debbie O'Neal won 15.35% of the vote. In Warsaw, at-large City Council candidate Dan Stevens won 16% of the vote in a three-way race.

In Indianapolis, At-Large City-Council candidate Bill Levin won over 10,000 voters in the county-wide election. In District 24, sitting at-large City-Councilor Ed Coleman was not successful in his bid for four more years. He won 24% of the vote.

"I want to thank everyone who came out to support my campaign in 2011," said Coleman. "It was a great experience, and I am so proud of all of the great support from every level of the Libertarian Party. We had great infrastructure, and showed that Libertarians can run a campaign as well as the establishment. Unfortunately, straight-ticket voting because of the highly contested Mayor's race was an obstacle our campaign could not overcome. I am confident that this will lay the foundation for a historic 2012 election, and for years to come in Marion County."

Despite these short term ups and downs, the party had unprecedented activism in the closing weeks of the 2011 Election season.

"Our party passed another milestone towards electoral success in 2011," said Sam Goldstein, Chairman of the Libertarian Party of Indiana. "These numbers

don't tell the entire story of this election cycle. Almost every campaign outside of Marion County ran effective, professional campaigns. Candidates like Jeff Spoonamore (Greenwood Mayor) and Matt Hisrich (Richmond City Council) put out yard signs, debated opponents, earned media, and made their opponents interview for a job. Inside Marion County, the county party canvassed over 95% of Ed Coleman's district. They also staffed the polls inside and outside of the polls with over 40 people. These opportunities for those new to the Libertarian Party to learn the nuts and bolts of professional campaigns will be invaluable in 2012. I want to thank every candidate and volunteer for their efforts in this election season, and I want to thank voters for casting their ballot for Libertarians."

### New York

*LPNY Helps Defeat Bond Referendum*

The Libertarian Party of New York helped defeat an August 1st referendum to borrow \$400 million to renovate Nassau Coliseum, home of the NY Islanders hockey team which is owned by billionaire Charles Wang. This special election with a \$2.2 million price tag was proposed by GOP County Executive Ed Mangano. The LPNY's Stop Nassau Coliseum Funding project, directed by former LPNY Chair Richard Cooper focused on the issue of corporate sports welfare, with a hard-hitting Libertarian message. Over 400 enrolled Libertarian voters and LP members were mailed flyers to distribute. Cooper gave speeches before the Nassau Campaign for Liberty and Nassau LP.

A Facebook group and blog <http://stopnassauliseumfunding.wordpress.com/> were started to spread the message. The message was noticed by the daily paper Newsday. "The Democrats only complained about the timing of the referendum, not the plan itself," said Libertarian Party of New York Vice-Chair Richard Cooper, a Westbury resident. "Only the Libertarians are for taxpayers all the time in opposing corporate welfare."

An Associated Press story appeared in Long Island Business News: "Getting 'likes' on Facebook is woefully easy these days. Unless your page has something to do with the plan for a new Nassau Coliseum. Several groups have popped up on both sides of the Coliseum debate. Some are more active than others, like one cre-

ated by Libertarians dubbed 'Stop Nassau Coliseum Funding,' which has several blog entries ..."

County Executive Mangano sought a personal meeting with Cooper to persuade him to drop his opposition. He turned them down. Nassau Democratic leader Jay Jacobs contacted Cooper to advise his support for the LPNY efforts. And, on August 1st, Nassau voters rejected the bond issue by a 57 to 43 percent vote.

### Ohio

*2014 LP Convention to be held in Columbus*

In a first-ever "shootout style" presentation, the Libertarian National Committee was heavily courted by potential 2014 Convention hosts from three cities. Dallas, Cincinnati, and Columbus each were each granted approximately 20 minutes to sell the LNC on the benefits of their respective locations.

Ohio's presenters were joined by various local supporters for each site. Finance Director Jillian Mack and Treasurer Bryant Callaghan urged the LNC to select Cincinnati to take advantage of the regional support from both local affiliates and the Kentucky and Indiana parties. Supporting the bid for Columbus were Vice Chair Michael Johnston and Columbus City Council candidate Bob Bridges, who pushed the benefits of a June weekend, a large community festival, and the generous offer of a local small business to provide LP delegates with emergency car support.

Due to several factors including overall cost and date availability, the two Ohio sites rapidly became the two favorites. Committee members decided to delay voting on the site location to the following day, to provide them with an evening to weigh the various considerations of the LP candidates, families, small business owners, and the working class members who form the backbone of our party.

Following a brief period of additional debate the next morning, the LNC decided overwhelmingly to locate the 2014 LP Convention at the Hyatt Regency in Columbus, Ohio during the weekend of June 27-30. The date will coincide with a popular local festival called ComFest located a short walk from the Hyatt. The 11-5 vote was split between Columbus supporters and those whose comments favored Cincinnati to play host. This will mark the first LP Convention east of the Mississippi since the 2004 Convention in Atlanta.



## LIBERTARIAN PARTY SPEAKS OUT

# 40th Anniversary of Nixon Speech that Led to Libertarian Party

*From an August 12, 2011  
press release*

On August 15, 1971, President Richard Nixon gave a speech announcing what would be known as his "New Economic Policy." The speech led directly to the formation of the Libertarian Party.

In the speech, Nixon announced two measures that were of particular concern to libertarians. First, a government-imposed freeze on wages and prices. Second, an end to the convertibility of dollars to gold.

Nixon said, "I am today ordering a freeze on all prices and wages throughout the United States for a period of 90 days."

Libertarians saw both of these actions as betrayals of the principles on which the United States was founded.

This speech has often been cited as the critical moment that ignited the formation of the Libertarian Party.

In his history of the libertarian movement, *Radicals for Capitalism*, Brian Doherty writes that the late David F. Nolan "was working for an ad agency in Denver and happened to have a handful of libertarian-minded friends over that day when Nixon hit the airwaves with his wage and price controls announcement. They all agreed: It was time for a third party...a Libertarian Party."

Nolan and several others formally created the Libertarian Party in Colorado Springs on December 11, 1971.

Libertarian Party Chair Mark Hinkle commented, "Taking the dollar off the gold standard has allowed the Federal Reserve to manipulate and devalue the dollar, and that's one reason our economy is in such trouble today. That, coupled with foolish wars and an unsustainable entitlement system supported by both the Democrats and Republicans, is why the Libertarian Party is more important today than ever before."

# More Jobs, Less Government

*From an August 19, 2011  
press release*

As unemployment in the United States remains stuck above 9 percent, Libertarian Party Executive Director Wes Benedict released the following statement:

"Every time politicians say they're going to create jobs, they end up destroying more jobs than they create.

"Here's the Libertarian approach to unemployment: cut taxes and spending, and let the free market work.

"Government intervention in the free market is what causes unemployment. There are many examples of this, well known to many economists. Minimum wage laws cause unemployment. Government-mandated unemployment insurance causes unemployment. Welfare and food stamps cause unemployment. Occupational licensing laws cause unemployment.

"One especially destructive factor is government prohibition of at-will employment. Because the government won't let employers hire, maintain, and fire employees on a truly at-will basis, it makes employment much riskier. Employers are scared to hire people because it can be so difficult to fire them if they don't work out, and employers are sometimes even scared

to interview people because they might be forced to hire them. The result? More unemployment.

"What about all the 'stimulus spending' we've seen during the last two administrations?

"Stimulus spending doesn't create jobs, it destroys them. The government spends money by extracting it out of the productive private sector, which causes a net loss of jobs.

"Stimulus spending makes our future less secure, without doing any good in the present. It destroys jobs today, as well as down the road.

"Back in 2009, the Obama administration was worried that unemployment might reach 8 percent. So they pushed through a massive stimulus program, and unemployment went up even higher, to 10 percent. The stimulus program made our problems worse.

"And in 2008, George W. Bush championed a counterproductive plan to send \$300-\$600 stimulus checks to millions of people.

"Republicans and Democrats in the federal and state governments need to stop trying to help, because they're only making things worse. Instead, they need to get out of the way and let us free Americans solve the problem ourselves."

# Lobbyists Too Powerful Because Government is Too Powerful

*From an October 28, 2011  
press release*

Libertarian Party Chair Mark Hinkle released the following statement today:

"President Obama is currently caught in a bit of a scandal over his pledge not to take campaign money from lobbyists.

"According to the New York Times, 'Despite a pledge not to take money from lobbyists, President Obama has relied on prominent supporters who are active in the lobbying industry to raise millions of dollars for his re-election bid.'

"It's unfortunate that the president has added one more to his pile of broken promises. But it's not at all surprising.

"Our government has far too much power and money at its disposal. The inevitable consequence is that businesses, organizations, and individuals

will work very hard to guide that power and money in their own favor.

"In fact, it often seems like politicians intentionally create incentives for people to try to bribe them.

"Businesses especially will fight for more corporate welfare, and also for regulations that stifle potential competitors. What choice do they have? If they don't fight for those special government favors, then someone else will, which will put them at an increasing disadvantage, and might drive them out of business.

"A recent Economist article pointed out that over the last ten years, companies that lobbied heavily had a much bigger increase in stock value than those that didn't. Executives might conclude that if you're not lobbying, you're ripping off your shareholders!

"And of course, these entities that stand to benefit from government favors will work hard (and spend hard) to get friendly politicians elected.

"Some people feel that massive campaign finance regulations will stop this unholy bargaining. It won't. When the dust settles, campaign finance restrictions usually just make life easier for incumbents and harder for challengers. We Libertarians know that only too well.

"I have to remind myself, lobbying isn't essentially a bad thing. It's an expression of our right to 'petition the government for a redress of grievances.' It provides information to politicians. But when politicians get in the habit of handing out favors, you can bet everyone is going to run up to the trough.

"The only way to reduce the power of lobbyists is to reduce the power of government. That choice rests with the voters. If voters keep electing Democrats and Republicans, then the power of government and lobbyists will continue to grow. If voters start electing Libertarians, things will change."

# Libertarians Say Obama's Afghanistan Policy is a Failure

*From an June 23, 2011  
press release*

Libertarian Party Chair Mark Hinkle responded to President Obama's June 22 speech with the following comments today:

"President Obama's speech was disappointing, but not surprising. The withdrawals he announced are painfully inadequate. Obama's withdrawals, even if they are carried out as he described, will still leave about 70,000 American troops in Afghanistan, probably for years to come. The president is commander-in-chief of the military. He has the power to end the war now, and withdraw all American troops, and

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## RJ Harris Continued...

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other newspapers across the Sooner State. RJ is also a proud son of the Kiowa Nation located in Carnegie, OK. Endorsements for RJ's 2010 U.S. Congressional Campaign include: Senator Rand Paul, Mr. John Dennis, Ms. Debra Medina, Liberty Candidates 2010, the Republican Liberty Caucus, the Oklahoma Conservative PAC and grassroots Liberty organizations from across the Republic. For more information about RJ visit [www.rjharris2012.com](http://www.rjharris2012.com).

## R. Lee Wrights Continued...

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er. I'll take the true libertarian message of peace and prosperity to all 50 states and won't be ashamed to say in a loud, clear and unequivocal voice: Stop all war!

## Bill Still Continued...

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the \*Tea Party\* movement. These people all have big lists, big followings. They can overturn the Libertarians' wasted vote syndrome.

I urge all Libertarians to watch two short YouTubes I have produced. I am willing to stand or fall on these two alone among the Libertarian community: SR 11, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=4VaSh8MMo34](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4VaSh8MMo34); and "SR 30," my latest, [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UzA0UPRz\\_o4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UzA0UPRz_o4).

## James Ogle Continued...

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vice president, and the elected names #3 to #1000 are consecutively ranked equal units on one large team, with all additional consecutively ranked names as back-ups.

For more information, please visit my web site <http://www.usparliament.org/google2012.php> or call or email me at 415-686-1996 or [joogle@gonott.com](mailto:joogle@gonott.com).

## Carl Person Continued...

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through volunteers offering prosperity to towns through Libertarian principles;

10. Obtaining value of state banks through competing privately-owned banks;

11. Being the only candidate who owned a small business;

12. Having run for NYS Attorney General in 2010—getting 1.5% of vote;

13. Campaigning nationally and being available to the LP in each state;

14. Conducting a 50-State Presidential campaign;

15. Helping homeowners, student borrowers, unemployed and small businesses;

16. Advocating targeted deregulation;

17. Identifying millions of new jobs destroyed by unjustified government regulation;

18. Planning deregulation of higher education, payroll withholding and restraints on raising capital.

## Rupert Boneham Enters Race for Governor

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Boneham made good on his promise to donate a large portion to create Rupert's Kids, the culmination of 20-plus years of work with at-risk youth. The organization's goal is to mentor at-risk youth. Their stated mission is to help, "those that have become too old for the youth social service system, but are not old enough for the adult social service system. We teach these youth valuable skills and trades, while also empowering them to discover their inner strengths, passions and interests."

Rupert's Kids, in partnership with the City of Indianapolis, created The Park Adoption Program. The program has saved taxpayers \$150,000.00 in the past years and continues to provide a safe, enjoyable work environment for Rupert's Kids. Ru-

pert's Kids does not receive federal or state funds. Boneham continues to raise funds and awareness for Rupert's Kids through a campaign of nationwide appearances and speaking engagements.

Boneham owns and operates several small businesses including Tournament Toppers, which has 10 crews on the road during football season. The company transports and sets up support gear for high-profile clients as NBC Sunday Night Football, ESPN and The NFL Network to name a few.

Boneham was born on January 27, 1964 in Detroit, Michigan, but grew up in Kokomo, Indiana which considers Rupert their most famous native son. Boneham has resided in Indianapolis, Indiana for the past 21 years. He has been married to his wife Laura for 14 years. They have one daughter, Raya.

## The Life and Legacy of Ed Thompson

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party candidate for governor in modern history, winning 11% of the vote, and earning the Libertarian Party of Wisconsin a seat on the Wisconsin Elections Board.

Ed had a tremendous passion for personal liberty, one that came straight from the heart, and which was very apparent in his speeches. He spoke against the upcoming Wisconsin gay marriage amendment at the 2007 LPWI convention. The banquet staff was setting the tables in the other room as Ed began his speech. By the time Ed ended his speech, every one of the staff had stopped working. Every ear in the place was tuned to Ed's passionate cry about the injustice of such acts.

Ed spoke in favor of marijuana legalization, and particularly medical cannabis, many times prior to his cancer diagnosis. During his 2002 campaign he spoke out about releasing non-violent offenders from prisons to help reduce the state budget. He said, "You can't keep pot smokers in prison for five years," even though he acknowledged that such a stand might hurt him in the race.

After his cancer diagnosis, his commitment to medical cannabis became more passionate, as he came to have an even better understanding of how wrong it is to deny a dying person relief from their suffering. He spoke about the subject to many groups, even though his position was not so warmly embraced by members of the more conservative associations. Ed won the first ever Wisconsin NORML Ben Masel Defender of Liberty Award last July for his devotion to the subject.

In describing Ed it is important to know that he was not only a great libertarian, he was truly a remarkable man. Back around 2006, former LPWI State Chair Dave Hendrickson, who wrote and directed the documentary A Remarkable Man and co-wrote with Ed the radio commentaries, Just a Little Common Sense, said to me "You know, it isn't so much because Ed's a libertarian that so many people vote for him. It's because Ed is Ed."

To know Ed Thompson was to love him. One day a few years ago I was standing beside Ed as he greeted people arriving at the Tee Pee. As a few of the locals came in, Ed's eyes lit up, a big smile came across his face, and he greeted each of them by name. Ed truly cared about people and it showed. In fact, during Ed's 2002 campaign business at the Tee Pee suffered

because people came there to see Ed.

Ed showed that one did not need to be a formally educated individual to understand the importance of individual liberty. Ed applied what he learned through his life in the common-sense libertarian approach he took when serving the people of Tomah. He considered himself a common man. "I'm as common as dirt" he once said. He joked that "Tommy went to college and passed the bar exam. I went to town and opened a bar."

Ed Thompson wasn't much of a politician at all. And that is what made him the favorite politician of so many. He wasn't afraid to admit his mistakes and shortcomings. Ed described his approach to politics as "just a little common sense from an ordinary hard-working guy."

Ed Thompson was a fighter. He understood what it was like to be down and out. He overcame divorce, alcohol, and poverty. He was once so broke that he fought his dog over the last of the dog treats. He joked that they were named Bonz, and were "good dunkers."

Ed managed to scrape together the funds in 1990 to purchase what became known in Tomah as Mr. Ed's Tee Pee Restaurant, adding on extra rooms, a banquet hall, and a beer garden over the years. He was a jack-of-all-trades, working as a butcher, a blacktop shoveler, a snow plow driver, an auto plant welder, an amateur boxer, a professional poker player, a prison cook and guard, a grocery store owner, a real estate agent, and a railroad worker before opening the Tee Pee. He played the lead regularly in community plays. He bought his first bar when he was 24.

Ed had a tremendous heart. In 1997 he began a tradition of offering a free Thanksgiving dinner, one that continues today, where scores of Tomah residents come together each year to provide meals to the thousands who come to the Tee Pee. Ed stuck up for farmers, small business owners, medical cannabis smokers, gay couples, the elderly, and just about anyone who wasn't a big shot. He would hire people needing a boost. He was instrumental in establishing the Senior Center in downtown Tomah, where he regularly read to the residents.

Ed Thompson was known for his compassion and generosity, his love of family and freedom, his humility, and his exuberant passion for liberty and life. I am proud and honored to have called him my friend.



## LETTERS To The Editor

### An Unedited Letter to the Editor

This is NOT the letter I started out to write. When I read your "Remember," the part about editing, I decided this was more important. I find it ludicrous that the editor of a rag that supposedly champions the right of free speech demands to be allowed to censor (edit for content) letters that are published. Doesn't changing someone's words and then publishing it as the original work of the author violate not only common courtesy, but also journalistic integrity? When I read a letter in a publication that has corrupted a letter of mine, I always wonder what the author really said.

I would have included my "City", but I don't have one. I don't understand why a Libertarian would chose to live in one.

William J. Pearsall  
New Hampshire

### Do You Have Something to Say?

If you have something to say about an article you've read in LP News, you can submit a letter to the editor at [editor@lp.org](mailto:editor@lp.org). Remember, not all letters received will be printed, and those that are printed may be edited for content, grammar, and length. Please keep letters under 150 words, and include your name, city and state with your letter.

**Submit your letter to the editor to [editor@lp.org](mailto:editor@lp.org)**

## Obama's Afghanistan Policy a Failure

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that's what he should do.

"The U.S. has no business fighting a war in Afghanistan. Nearly three years ago, our Libertarian National Committee adopted a resolution calling for the withdrawal of our armed forces from Afghanistan. We are saddened and angry that there are now more troops there than ever.

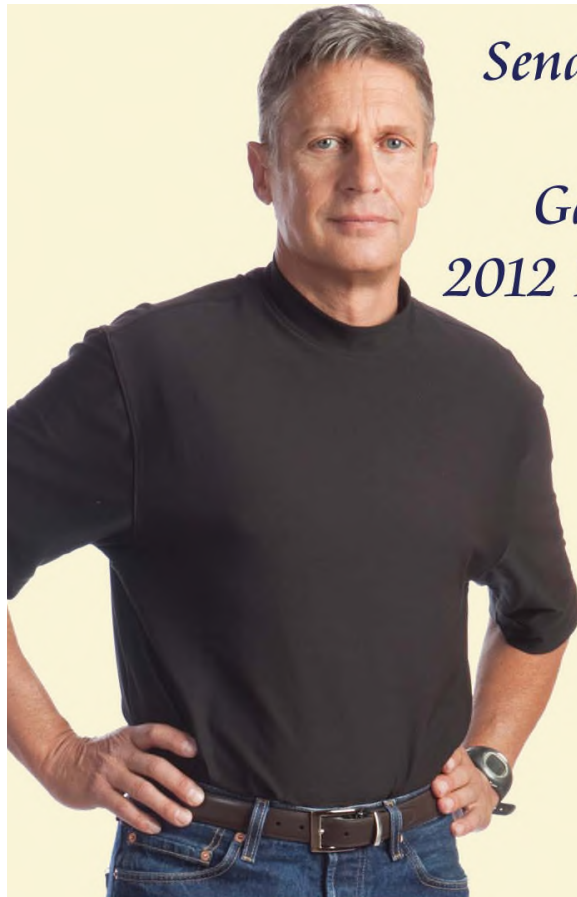
"Obama talked about 'ending the war responsibly.' I think the word 'responsibly' is a weaselly escape hatch in case Obama doesn't want to withdraw more troops later. He will just say, 'That would be irresponsible—I need to keep the war going strong.'

"This war causes the Afghan people to justifiably feel a greater hatred toward America. It makes American taxpayers poorer. And it emboldens other would-be aggressors, who can point to American intervention in Afghanistan whenever they feel like doing the same elsewhere.

"There are two big winners from the continuation of this war: Our military-industrial complex, which seems to have the president in its back pocket, and the Afghan government, which continues to enjoy tremendous benefits at the expense of the American taxpayer.

"If anything, Republican reactions to the president's speech were even more ridiculous than the speech itself. Republican Senator John McCain fretted that this withdrawal was not 'modest' enough. Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney, feeling the need to criticize Obama despite the fact that they basically agree on everything, complained of an 'arbitrary timetable.' Republican House Speaker John Boehner worried about losing our 'gains' in Afghanistan.

"All these comments show an inability to comprehend an intelligent, modest foreign policy, as well as a serious lack of respect for American taxpayers."



*Send a Message ...  
Recruit  
Gary Johnson  
2012 LP Nominee for  
President*



**Gary Johnson "Governor Veto" was governor of New Mexico from 1994-2003. Gov. Johnson was a LP Member in 1992, and again in 2000**

**Gary is an outspoken advocate for efficient government, lower taxes, protection of civil liberties, revitalization of the economy and promoting entrepreneurship and privatization.**

#### Civil Liberties

- End assault on privacy
- Simplify legal immigration
- Legalize adult use of marijuana
- Protect right to civil unions

#### Internet

- No censorship
- No taxes

#### Spending & Deficits

- Balance the budget
- Entitlement reform
- Stop the bailouts
- Audit the Fed

#### Foreign Policy

- Bring the troops home
- No exceptions to "due process"
- Don't torture!

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Lauren Meek (left) and Shawn Meek host the New River Libertarians' booth at the Steppin' Out festival in Blacksburg, Virginia on August 5, 2011.

## What have you missed recently on LP.org?

- Gurgaon, the Libertarian Paradise from Mother Jones
- LP at Gay Pride DC 6/12/11
- The Cancer of Regulation by John Stossel
- Poll shows America is becoming more libertarian
- Maryland court rules in favor of Libertarians
- Wayne Root's Bold Tax Proposal in Thursday's Washington Times
- Libertarians Announce for Ron Paul's Congressional Seat
- Florida LP call for TSA arrests makes news
- How Liberty Saves the Environment
- Texas LP Chair visits Argentina Libertarians
- LP responds to Wall Street Journal editorial
- Libertarian candidate Moellman at 16% in Kentucky
- U.S. Constitution Day Resolution - 2011
- Is drug legalization going mainstream?

## WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR STATE?

A complete list of Libertarian events can be found online at [LP.org/event](http://LP.org/event). You can get more information by visiting the Web site of your state affiliate. (See a list at [LP.org/states](http://LP.org/states).) If there is an event you would like to see listed here or on the Web site, please send details to:

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